

Name: _____ Date: _____



By-the-wind Sailor

Velella velella

The By-the-wind Sailor is a unique colonial marine organism often mistaken for a jellyfish, but it is actually a hydrozoan related to the Portuguese Man o' War. It features a small, oval, blue float ...

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate

Family: Porpitidae

Habitat: Open ocean surface (pelagic zone)

Diet: Carnivore

Conservation status: Least Concern

Lifespan: Approximately 1 month

Weight: Less than 1 gram

Scientific name: *Velella velella*

Did you know?

- Mass strandings of By-the-wind Sailors can turn entire stretches of beach bright blue, sometimes covering miles of coastline after strong winds.
- The By-the-wind Sailor is not a single animal, but a colony of specialized polyps working together. Its sail can be oriented either left or right, in...

What I learned
